Universal social protection is crucial to ending poverty and tackling inequalities to leave no one behind. It aims to provide income security and protect people against the risks they face in the different stages of their lives through social assistance, social insurance and labour market interventions.

Join us in an open forum to discuss the needs and opportunities in realizing universal social protection systems: How can “USP2030” address these needs and generate global momentum for countries to achieve SDG 1.3 (“implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage for the poor and the vulnerable”)?

RSVP by 29 January 2018 to: social-protection@giz.de
Universal social protection is crucial to ending poverty and tackling inequalities so that we leave no one behind. It aims to provide income security and support for all people to protect them against all of the different risks they face over the course of their lives. Countries can progressively reach universal social protection through social insurance and social assistance as well as labour market interventions aiming at decent work that complement each other.

Social protection is a human right enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Universal social protection is receiving greater attention, particularly due to the experiences of countries in implementing universal approaches and the 2030 Agenda’s goal 1.3 to “implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.” International statements not only by the United Nations but also the African Union, ASEAN, the European Commission and the G20 have endorsed universal social protection. In 2016, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Bank invited stakeholders in the international social protection agenda to join the Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection. This initiative has been supported by many key partners including the African Union, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the European Commission, HelpAge International, IADB, OECD, Save the Children, UNDP-IPC, UNICEF and others, along with Belgian, Finnish, French and German development cooperation.

In order to jointly define a vision of “USP 2030” among countries and development partners, building on the years of experience of champions of the South, all countries are invited to participate in shaping the future of this global movement towards Universal Social Protection beyond the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 1.3. Rather than a means, universal social protection can be approached as a goal, whose achievement can enable everyone to reach their full potential.

The 56th Commission for Social Development provides a timely occasion to start the conversation and involve country representatives from relevant sectors. This side event, organized by Germany and co-sponsored by Finland, ILO and the World Bank together with the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors, aims to provide an open forum for discussion among countries and development partners. Participants will discuss countries’ needs and opportunities in realizing universal social protection systems progressively and will be able to voice their ideas on how “USP2030” can address these needs and generate global momentum for countries to move towards Social Protection for All.